

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listings of Claims:

1. (Original) A manufacturing method of a steering column for a car in which a steering column is supported and secured on the car body through a bracket, comprising the steps of:

forming in advance said bracket of a plurality of divided components, and connecting these plurality of divided components by caulking at the time of assembling, so as to assemble said bracket.

2. (Original) A manufacturing method of a steering column according to Claim 1, wherein:

said divided components include a main body component which integrally comprises two side portions between which the steering column passes and which extend in parallel to the axis of the steering column, a connection portion connecting said side portions to each other and two flange portions extending outwardly from the upper ends of the side portions, and a separate

component which, if integrally formed with said main body component, would have complicatedly developed form and assembling step and have a form protruding from said side portions;

    said flange portions of said main body component and said divided components are provided with engagement portions to be engaged with each other;

    and said engagement portions are caulked and secured to constitute said bracket.

3. (Original) A manufacturing method of a steering column apparatus for a car in which a column-side bracket attached to a steering column is brought into pressure contact with a body-side bracket attached onto the body of the car to be retained, characterized in that:

    said column-side bracket is comprised of divided components including a main body portion which consists of a column supporting portion directly in contact with a lower part of the steering column and secured to said lower part and two side plate portions integrally formed with said column supporting portion and in pressure contact with the inner surfaces of the both side plate portions of said body-side bracket, and a fit plate portion which is formed separately from said main body

portion for coupling said side plate portions of said main body portion to each other; and

the main body portion and the fit plate portion are connected to each other by caulking at the time of assembling, thereby assembling the column-side bracket.

4. (Original) A steering column apparatus for a car comprising a body-side bracket attached to the body of the car for retaining a column-side bracket attached to the steering column by bringing the column-side bracket into pressure contact with two side plate portions extending in parallel to the axis of the steering column with the steering column passing therebetween, characterized in that:

said column-side bracket is comprised of a main body portion which consists of a column supporting portion directly in contact with a lower part of the steering column and secured to said lower part and two side plate portions integrally formed with said column supporting portion and in pressure contact with the inner surfaces of the both side plate portions of body-side bracket, and a fit plate portion which is formed separately from said main body portion for coupling said side plate portions of said main body portion to each other; and

the main body portion and the fit plate portion are connected to each other by caulking.

5. (New) A manufacturing method of a steering column according to Claim 1, wherein:

said divided components include a main body component which integrally comprises (a) two side portions each having a first engagement portion and extended in parallel to the axis of said steering column, (b) a connecting portion connecting those side portions, and (c) flange portions to be attached to the vehicle body, the flange portions having second engagement portions extended, respectively, along the sides of said steering column from said side portions; and

separate components each having (i) a first engagement corresponding portion to be connected to said first engagement portion and (ii) a second engagement corresponding portion to be connected to said second engagement portion;

said first engagement portions of said main body component and said first engagement corresponding portions of said separate components are connected to each other, and said second engagement portions of said main body component and said second engagement

corresponding portions of said separate components are connected to each other; and

the thus engaged portions are caulked and secured to constitute said bracket.